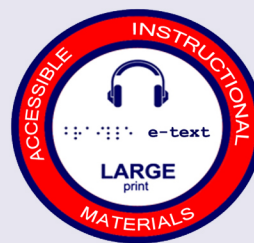


Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM)



Iowa's
TRUE AIM
student achievement is the target

What is TRUE AIM?

The 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) included the requirement that students with visual impairments and students with print disabilities receive their textbooks and core-related instructional materials in a timely manner. Although this is not a new requirement for local districts, the Iowa Department of Education is implementing an initiative called TRUE AIM to assist local districts in meeting this requirement.

Who is Responsible?

School districts have the ultimate responsibility to provide learning materials that are accessible to all students with print disabilities. Core curriculum material and text books may need to be converted to these specialized formats. Specialized formats enable students with print disabilities to gain the information they need to complete tasks, master IEP goals, and reach curricular standards. Specialized formats are also provided to students who are unable to gain information from traditional print materials.

Specialized Formats

- Braille
- Large Print
- Audio
- Digital Text

How Are These Materials Provided?

These accessible materials may be secured from different sources depending upon the defining characteristics of the students disability and need. These specialized formats can be obtained through the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) for qualified students—purchased from publishers or developed locally by school districts, area education agencies or some other entity. According to federal law only authorized users are able to access the NIMAC. In Iowa the authorized user is the Iowa Department for the Blind.

Resources

Iowa Department for the Blind: <http://www.blind.state.ia.us>

Center for Applied Special Technology: <http://www.CAST.org>

Office for Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/rights/reg/ocr/index.html>

Contact: Steve Maurer

Iowa Department of Education - Grimes State Office Building

400 E. 14th St. - Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146

Phone: 515-281-3576 - FAX: 515-242-6019 - E-Mail: steve.maurer@iowa.gov